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SACRIFICIAL STONE IDOLS AND SKELETON

Interesting Find by Ex-Gov. Cleghorn on Wai-kiki Beach Lots—Relics of a Barbarian Past Uncovered.

Sacrificial stones, the history of which is too remote even for the oldest Hawaiian inhabitant here to determine, have been unearthed by Hon. A. S. Cleghorn, at his beach place on the Diamond Head side of the Huestace residence and close to the Moana Hotel. The discovery is an all-important one in the antiquarian history of the islands and their people, for it was probably on this spot generations ago when the Oahuans were supreme in their own sovereignty, that the high priests made public demonstrations of their power, not only over the people but over the king as well.

In the front yard of the Cleghorn beach premises and in plain view of the road, is a huge mound of stones, or, to be more explicit, a group of huge stones with some smaller ones grotesquely elevated on top. To the casual passer-by the big stones have no meaning, but many persons have been curious to know why the misshapen rocks should be raised in so conspicuous a place.

These rocks, however, are among the most valuable that have been brought to light in recent years.

For the past two decades, or since the time when the Princess Likelike used the same premises for a bathing place, Mr. Cleghorn has taken note of some peculiar outcroppings of stones a foot or two above the sand. He saw that one was hollowed with some attempt at design to a depth of several inches. He became convinced that the stone had, in ancient times, been used in the performance of religious rites. There were deep stains about the rim which no washing would remove, and the stains are there to this day, but whether caused by the blood of sacrificed victims or from draughts of awa poured into the hollow by the priests is not yet determined.

While erecting his new beach cottage recently Mr. Cleghorn made a closer investigation of the stone. With the assistance of Mr. Traphagen, Mr. Cleghorn had his men dig carefully about the mass. They dug to a depth of five feet before they came to the base. The stone was found to be a huge one, weighing about eight tons. It is not of the class found on or near the beach, but undoubtedly came from the range of hills back of Kapiolani Park. Jack-screws were used and the stone was brought to the surface and the excavation filled in.

Investigation showed that in the lot on the Diamond Head side there was another large stone. The property, now owned by Mr. Lutted, was formerly in the possession of Charles W. Booth, and permission was granted to Mr. Cleghorn to raise the prize. The second stone was found to be much heavier, in fact, it weighs, according to Mr. Traphagen's estimates, about ten tons. It was found in a straight line with the first stone and still a third and a fourth were excavated, all in a straight line.

When the ten-ton stone was raised Mr. Cleghorn made his most important discovery. The remains of a skeleton were found buried beneath the great rock. But few bones had been left by Time. There was a jaw-bone with all the teeth intact and perfect. Dr. Mays, the physician, to whom it was shown, and Dr. Whitney, the dentist, pronounce the teeth those of a young woman perhaps 17 years of age. The teeth are now in the temporary possession of Dr. Whitney for treatment and will be returned to Mr. Cleghorn.

It is the opinion of Mr. Cleghorn that the young woman was the victim of a sacrificial rite. The sacrifice must have been a very important function to have had the people go to the great trouble of burying the remains beneath so huge a stone.

But the skeleton was not the only feature to call to mind the idea that there had been human sacrifice. Close to the bones Mr. Cleghorn discovered four or five very crude idols, two of which are now cemented to the top of the ten-ton rock, giving the latter a very grotesque appearance. The workmen broke the head off of one, and this was cemented on again. Only those who are acquainted with Hawaiian idols would have recognized the almost shapeless stones as figures before which the ancient Hawaiians made their devotions and offerings. The broken one had been rudely shaped. The head was but a ball and the body merely shaped to give the appearance of a neck and a large-sized trunk.

In the other there is a notch to indicate that there is a chin, and there are a few markings beneath. Another was a slab-side piece of stone, which is believed to be a fish-god.

A curious stone is one which was found at the end of the line of rocks. This has curious hollowed indentations on the surface, one much like the seat of a sulky-plow. Mr. Cleghorn believes that this was the seat of a high chief or a priest. Another imperfect hollowing occurs a foot away but this may have been merely a receptacle for awa or other kahunaed liquid, or it may have been a seat for another person.

How the Hawaiians ever brought these huge stones down to the beach from the mountain is a mystery. It is not known whether they were versed in methods of carrying huge objects to great distances. There were no horses or mules here, and all transportation must have been by hand and possibly on rude sledges.

The site of these curious stones recalls the fact that the beach there was the favorite bathing place of Kamehameha the Great and his chiefs. It is also believed that the King of Oahu before the advent of the conqueror used the same place.

The beach is now considered dangerous for people who are not good swimmers. The water is very deep just off the shore and the under-tow at times is extremely strong. Mr. Cleghorn states that it is a curious thing that the bottom along that section is almost free from coral. There appears to be a half moon section there which has no coral stones to amount to anything. Mr. Cleghorn is of the opinion that Kamehameha put a great many of his people to work there removing the coral so that he might have a clean, sandy ocean bed beneath the surface of the water where he had chosen to enjoy his baths and watch the aquatic sports of his subjects.

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POSSIBLE PEACE DEMANDS OF THE VICTORIOUS JAPS

Editor Advertiser: Talk of peace between Russia and Japan is in the air. But it is doubtful whether Japan is ready to discuss the matter just at present. She would rather defer negotiations till after the Spring campaign opens, when the probable capture of Mukden, the ancient capital of Manchuria, would add immensely to her prestige and place her in position to enforce such a treaty as will safeguard the future of the Japanese empire.

On what terms might Japan be willing to end the war? No authoritative voice on this point has been heard from Tokio. But it is safe to assume that, when the time comes, her statesmen will make certain specific demands, to include the following:

1. Evacuation of Manchuria, and withdrawal of Russia to the north of the Amur.
2. The admission of Japan's protectorate over Korea.
3. Japanese occupation of Port Arthur and the Liao-tung Peninsula.
4. The restoration of Saghalien Island, taken from Japan in the hour of her internal weakness in 1873.

If there is to be any peace, it will be on the basis of the acceptance of all four of these propositions. The Japanese will hardly be satisfied with anything less.

What other concessions the Japanese may feel entitled to are of lesser concern. They may be expected to claim the dismantling of Vladivostok and its opening as a free port. It is also believed that they will insist on the free navigation of the Amur from the mouth of the Sungari to the sea, and likewise of the Ussuri river. These and other questions will be the pawns on the chessboard, when the diplomats sit down to their game of give and take.

The Manchurian railroad will prove a knotty problem. The Japanese will hardly consent to the railroad remaining in the hands of the Russians, thereby leaving a door wide open for future aggression. Nor is it to be expected that they will permit an international control of that important artery. International control by European powers means intrigue and combination for selfish ends, as Japan found to her cost when she was hustled out of Port Arthur in 1894. The railroad being in Chinese territory, its cession to China may be decided on, that power guaranteeing repayment to Russia for the cost of its construction.

The question of indemnity has been mentioned, but it would be unwise for Japan to make any such proposition. A money indemnity might be wrung from a vanquished and prostrate foe, as when Germany had her foot on the neck of France, but that is by no means the position of the present belligerents. Russia has failed, but she is not crushed, nor is she likely to be.

W. H. M.

During the time when the Supreme Court of the United States lived apart from the rest of the world, dining in a mess by itself, Judge Story was telling one day how abstemious he and his associates were, asserting that they drank wine only on rainy days. However, he tempered the latter statement as follows: "What I say about wine, sir, gives you our rule, but it does sometimes happen that the chief justice will say to me when the cloth is removed: 'Brother Story, step to the window and see if it does not look like rain.' And if I tell him that the sun is shining, Chief Justice Marshall will sometimes reply: 'All the better; for our jurisdiction extends over so large a territory that the doctrine of chance makes it certain that it must be raining somewhere.'"

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